

State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
June 26, 2014

- ITEM: 10
- SUBJECT: Negative Declaration Approval: Resolution to Approve a Negative Declaration and Initial Study Regarding Potential Environmental Impacts Associated with the Adoption of Conditional Waivers of Waste Discharge Requirements for Low Threat Discharges in the San Diego Region (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2014-0042) (*Roger Mitchell*)
- PURPOSE: To consider approving Tentative Resolution No. R9-2014-0041, which would approve a Negative Declaration, and certify that the San Diego Water Board has complied with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) with respect to Tentative Order No. R9-2014-0041, *Conditional Waivers of Waste Discharge Requirements for Low Threat Discharges in the San Diego Region* (Tentative Order).
- RECOMMENDATION: Approval of Tentative Resolution No. R9-2014-0042 (Supporting Document No. 1) is recommended.
- KEY ISSUES:
1. The Tentative Order cannot be adopted before the Board fulfills its CEQA obligation to approve an environmental document for the project. Approval of Tentative Resolution No. R9-2014-0042 will fulfill that obligation.
 2. The draft Negative Declaration concludes the Tentative Order will not have a significant impact on the environment.
 3. No public comments were received on the Negative Declaration.
- PRACTICAL VISION: San Diego Water Board staff, through the development and public notification of Tentative Resolution No. R9-2014-0042 continue to implement the goals of the San Diego Water Board's Practical Vision for Proactive Public Outreach and Communication. The Tentative Resolution completes the CEQA process for the Tentative Order. By complying with the CEQA, the Board has disclosed to the public the likely

environmental consequences of the proposed waivers and provided a forum for public participation and comment.

DISCUSSION:

The San Diego Water Board is considering adopting the Tentative Order, which would conditionally waive waste discharge requirements for specific low threat discharges in the San Diego Region (Item No. 11 on the agenda). The San Diego Water Board is the lead agency for this project under the CEQA, and is responsible for evaluating the environmental impacts of the project and preparing the necessary environmental documents.

On April 1, 2014, an Initial Study/Environmental Checklist (Supporting Document No. 2) and Draft Negative Declaration (Supporting Document No. 3) were completed and made available for review by the public. The Initial Study and Environmental Checklist, and Draft Negative Declaration support a conclusion the conditional waivers of waste discharge requirements for specific low threat discharges in the San Diego Region in Tentative Order No. R9-2014-0041, will not have a significant impact on the environment.

LEGAL CONCERNS:

None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Tentative Resolution No. R9-2014-0042, Approval of a Negative Declaration and Initial Study regarding potential environmental impacts associated with the adoption of conditional waivers of waste discharge requirements for low threat discharges in the San Diego Region.
2. Draft Negative Declaration which includes the Initial Study and Environmental Checklist.
3. Notice of Completion and Environmental Document Transmittal.
4. Notice of Availability of Tentative Order No. R9-2014-0041, and Tentative Resolution No. R9-2014-0042.
5. Newspaper Public Notice of Availability of Tentative Order No. R9-2014-0041, and Tentative Resolution No. R9-2014-0042.
6. State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit website posting confirmation.

7. State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit confirmation letter.
8. California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15072, CEQA Guidelines for a Notice of Intent to Approve a Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

The Tentative Resolution No. R9-2014-0042, Initial Study and Environmental Checklist, draft Negative Declaration, and Tentative Order No. R9-2014-0041 were issued for public comment through the *Conditional Waivers and Board Meetings Email Subscription Service* and posted on the San Diego Water Board website,¹ on April 1, 2014 (Supporting Document No. 5). In addition, a public notice was published in the San Diego Union Tribune on April 3, 2014, Orange County Register and Riverside Press-Enterprise on April 4, 2014 (Supporting Document No. 6), in compliance with section 15072 of the CEQA Guidelines (Supporting Document No. 9).

¹ http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/rwqcb9/water_issues/programs/waivers/waivers_ceqa.shtml